



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 902**

January Session, 2015



**AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE  
FOR POLICE OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDERS WITH POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS  
DISORDER.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (16) of section 31-275 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *January 1, 2016, and applicable to the visual witnessing of a death, or the*  
4 *immediate aftermath of a death, occurring on or after said date*):

5 (16) (A) "Personal injury" or "injury" includes, in addition to  
6 accidental injury that may be definitely located as to the time when  
7 and the place where the accident occurred, an injury to an employee  
8 that is causally connected with the employee's employment and is the  
9 direct result of repetitive trauma or repetitive acts incident to such  
10 employment, and occupational disease.

11 (B) "Personal injury" or "injury" shall not be construed to include:

12 (i) An injury to an employee that results from the employee's  
13 voluntary participation in any activity the major purpose of which is  
14 social or recreational, including, but not limited to, athletic events,  
15 parties and picnics, whether or not the employer pays some or all of  
16 the cost of such activity;

17 (ii) A mental or emotional impairment, unless such impairment (I)

18 arises from a physical injury or occupational disease, (II) in the case of  
19 a police officer, arises from such police officer's use of deadly force or  
20 subjection to deadly force in the line of duty, regardless of whether  
21 such police officer is physically injured, provided such police officer is  
22 the subject of an attempt by another person to cause such police officer  
23 serious physical injury or death through the use of deadly force, and  
24 such police officer reasonably believes such police officer to be the  
25 subject of such an attempt, [or] (III) in the case of a firefighter, is  
26 diagnosed as post-traumatic stress disorder by a [licensed and board  
27 certified mental health professional] psychiatrist licensed pursuant to  
28 chapter 370 or a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383,  
29 determined by such [professional] psychiatrist or psychologist to be  
30 originating from the firefighter witnessing the death of another  
31 firefighter while engaged in the line of duty and not subject to any  
32 other exclusion in this section, or (IV) in the case of a police officer,  
33 firefighter or emergency medical services provider, is diagnosed as  
34 post-traumatic stress disorder by a psychiatrist licensed pursuant to  
35 chapter 370 or a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383,  
36 determined by such psychiatrist or psychologist to be originating from  
37 the police officer, firefighter or emergency medical services provider  
38 visually witnessing the death of a human being, or the immediate  
39 aftermath of such death, provided the visual witnessing of such death  
40 or the aftermath of such death occurred while the police officer,  
41 firefighter or emergency medical services provider was engaged in the  
42 line of duty. As used in this clause, "police officer" means a member of  
43 the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency  
44 Services and Public Protection, an organized local police department  
45 or a municipal constabulary, "firefighter" means a uniformed member  
46 of a municipal paid or volunteer fire department, [and] "in the line of  
47 duty" means any action that a police officer, [or] firefighter or  
48 emergency medical services provider is obligated or authorized by  
49 law, rule, regulation or written condition of employment service to  
50 perform, or for which the police officer, [or] firefighter or emergency  
51 medical services provider is compensated by the public entity such  
52 officer or provider serves, "emergency medical services provider"

53 means a person licensed or certified under chapter 368d and employed  
 54 by a municipality, and "immediate aftermath" means the scene at  
 55 which such death occurred for a period of time not to exceed six hours  
 56 after such scene is secured by law enforcement officers;

57 (iii) A mental or emotional impairment that results from a personnel  
 58 action, including, but not limited to, a transfer, promotion, demotion  
 59 or termination; or

60 (iv) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(i) of this  
 61 subdivision, "personal injury" or "injury" includes injuries to  
 62 employees of local or regional boards of education resulting from  
 63 participation in a school-sponsored activity but does not include any  
 64 injury incurred while going to or from such activity. As used in this  
 65 clause, "school-sponsored activity" means any activity sponsored,  
 66 recognized or authorized by a board of education and includes  
 67 activities conducted on or off school property and "participation"  
 68 means acting as a chaperone, advisor, supervisor or instructor at the  
 69 request of an administrator with supervisory authority over the  
 70 employee.

71 Sec. 2. Section 31-294h of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
 72 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2016, and applicable to the visual witnessing of a death, or the immediate aftermath of a death, occurring on or after said date</i>	31-275(16)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

**PS** Joint Favorable Subst.